THE MERMAID FABLE.

Manatee, an Uniovely Creature, Much Resembles the Human Form.

Few people who visit the curio stand on the lake front at Palm Beach, just north of the Royal Poinciana grounds, to see the live manatee, or "sea cow," are imaginative enough to perceive in the wonderful, unlovely form of the huge pachyderm in its cage of inadequate proportions the origin of the delightful fable of the mermaids or the Grecian legends of the sirens, says the Florida Citizen. That these did originate in this monster of the sea is indisputable.

The manatee, or lamantin, the Latin name for which is manatus, belongs to the gems of herbivorous cetacea, or manatidae, its chief characteristic being its rounded tail fin, further distinguished by the presence of small flat nails at the edge of the swimming paws, in the edge of which under the skin fingers can easily be felt. Connected together as they are by strong ligaments, they possess considerable power of motion, whence the same manatee, from the Latin manus, hand. The name sea cow originated in the similarity of the manatee's mouth and nose to that of the cow. The structure of the teeth is also distinctive; the crowns of the grinders are square, with two transverse ridges.

The species, all of which are inhabitants of tropical coasts, feed entirely on plants and grasses which grow along shore and on the bed of the water, the former made accessible by the tide, which after it has retired often exhibits plain proof of their browsing. They live chiefly in shallow bays and creeks and often ascend rivers to a considerable distance from the sea.

BRIDES AND FLOWERS.

Objection Is Made to Posles With Strong Odors.

"In the matter of perfume," said a florist to a New York Tribune man, "I have learned the importance of what seems a trivial thing by catering to the tastes of brides. When a woman is going to be married she is strung up to a high pitch of nervous excitement, and an extra whiff of perfume will sometimes cause her to faint. 'Don't put in any flower with an odor,' is fre quently the instruction 1 get for a bridal bouquet. This is the cause of the great demand for orchids, expensive as they are, for brides' flowers. Even the subtle, hardly noticeable perfume of the lilies of the valley, which are charming for a shower bouquet, is objected to by some. In Paris orchids, and orchids alone, are used for a bride's bouquet, but such a bouquet as they make there, duplicated here, would cost over \$100. We generally manage to put in a little spray of orange blossoms in every bride's bouquet, unless expressly desired not to do so, but the chief place in which orange blossoms are used now is in the newspaper accounts of weddings. The reporters conclude that brides ought to wear orange flowers, if they don't. Bride roses, white and scentless, are popular for bridal flowers, but lilies of the valley, unobtrusive and delicate, slipping out of their little green sheaths, with a few orchids grouped with them, to give the whole form and character, are in exquisite taste."

Balzac's curious speculations sugges.

the extent to which color influences our human life. He had noticed that a woman who had a taste for orange or green gowns was quarrelsome; one who wore a yellow or black apparel, without apparent cause, was not to be trusted; preference for white showed a co quette spirit; gentle and thoughtful women prefer pink; women who regard themselves as unfortunate prefer pear gray; lilac is the shade particularly affected by "over-ripe beauties"; wherefore, the great author held, lilac hats are mostly worn by mothers on their daughter's marriage day and by women more than 40 years old when they go visiting. These theories are founded upon the principles of color, as already laid down-namely, that red and yellow excite; green, tempered by blue, is bilious; orange is fiery; gray is cold and melancholy; lilac is a light shade of purple, the most retiring color of the scale.-Popular Science News.

Must Go by Schoolhouses Slowly.

Superintendent Linden, at the instance of Director Riter, called the attention of the police lieutenants and sergeants to the ordinance of Nov. 11 last, regulating the speed of trolley cars in passing schoolhouses, making it unlawful for any passenger railway company operating in the city to run any car propelled by electricity between the hours of 8 a. m. and 5 p. m. at a greater rate of speed than six miles an hour over a distance of 150 feet on either side and in front of any public school The ordinance also provides that it shall be the duty of the bureau of police to instruct patrolmen on duty where public schools are to time the speed of the cars at least once a day so as to become familiar with the rate of speed and to report the same to their superior officers. The penalty for a violation of the ordinance is a fine of \$20 -Philadelphia Ledger.

Legislation.

Brass is not made gold by gilding it Reform by legislation is a dream. Legislative decrees cannot make men other than they are. The need is to make men, and to make men brothers. Social happiness without brotherhood is impossible. Brotherhood is not a product of the law. It is a product of love -Rev. S. G. Nelson.

Very Lucidly Explained.

"The who, suh?"

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The coroner of a rural town in Georgia was examining witnesses in a case of sudden death. "Did you ever hear the deceased complain of any all-ment?" he asked of one.

"The who, suh?"

Through Pullman Cars and day coaches are run between Cripple Creek, Victor, Colorado Springs, and Denver, on Trains 7 and 8. Passengers can occupy berths in Colorado Springs, Sleeper until 7:00 a. m. Connection is made at Divide with Colorado Midland Rail-and the deceased complain of any all-ment?" he asked of one.

"The who, suh?"

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The Midland Terminal is the only broad-gage railroad into the Cripple Creek district. The Midland Terminal is the only broad-gage railroad into the Cripple Creek district. The Midland Terminal is the only broad-gage railroad into the Cripple Creek, Victor, Colorado Springs, Denver and Springs, Denver and Pueblo, with all lines for the East, West, North and South.

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